

and records is used by NRC to make licensing and other regulatory determinations concerning the use of special nuclear material. The revised estimate of burden reflects an increase primarily because of the addition of requirements for documentation for termination or transfer of licensed activities.

Submit, by April 27, 1998, comments that address the following questions:

1. Is the proposed collection of information necessary for the NRC to properly perform its functions? Does the information have practical utility?
2. Is the burden estimate accurate?
3. Is there a way to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected?
4. How can the burden of the information collection be minimized, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology?

A copy of the draft supporting statement may be viewed free of charge at the NRC Public Document Room, 2120 L Street, NW (lower level), Washington, DC. OMB clearance requests are available at the NRC worldwide web site (<http://www.nrc.gov>) under the FedWorld collection link on the home page tool bar. The document will be available on the NRC home page site for 60 days after the signature date of this notice.

Comments and questions about the information collection requirements may be directed to the NRC Clearance Officer, Brenda Jo. Shelton, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, T-6 F33, Washington, DC, 20555-0001, or by telephone at 301-415-7233, or by Internet electronic mail at BJS1@NRC.GOV.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 19th day of February, 1998.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Brenda Jo. Shelton,

NRC Clearance Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 98-4763 Filed 2-24-98; 8:45 am]

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Agency Information Collection Activities: Submission for Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Review; Comment Request

AGENCY: U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC).

ACTION: Notice of the OMB review of information collection and solicitation of public comment.

SUMMARY: The NRC has recently submitted to OMB for review of continued approval of information collection under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35). The NRC hereby informs potential respondents that an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and that a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

1. *Type of submission, new, revision, or extension:* Revision.

2. *The title of the information collection:* State Agreements Program, as authorized by Section 274(b) of the Atomic Energy Act.

3. *Current OMB approval number:* 3150-0029.

4. *How often the collection is required:* One time or as needed.

5. *Who is required or asked to report:* Thirty Agreement States who have signed Section 274(b) agreements with NRC.

6. *An estimate of the number of responses:* 95.

7. *An estimated number of annual respondents:* 30.

8. *An estimate of the total number of hours needed annually to complete the requirement or request:* 570 (approximately six hours per response).

9. *An indication of whether Section 3507(d), Public Law 104-13 applies:* Not applicable.

10. *Abstract:* Agreement States are surveyed on a one-time or as-needed basis, i.e., in response to a specific incident, to gather information on licensing and inspection practices and other technical and statistical information. The results of such information requests, which are authorized under Section 274(b) of the Atomic Energy Act, are utilized in part by NRC in preparing responses to Congressional inquiries. Agreement State comments are also solicited in the areas of proposed procedure and policy development.

A copy of the final supporting statement may be viewed free of charge at the NRC Public Document Room, 2120 L Street, NW (lower level), Washington, DC. OMB clearance requests are available at the NRC worldwide web site (<http://www.nrc.gov>) under the FedWorld collection link on the home page tool bar. The document will be available on the NRC home page site for 60 days after the signature date of this notice.

Comments and questions should be directed to the OMB reviewer by March 27, 1998: Martin Offutt, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (3150-0029), NEOB-10202, Office of

Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503.

Comments can also be submitted by telephone at (202) 395-3084.

The NRC Clearance Officer is Brenda Jo. Shelton, 301-415-7233.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 19th day of February, 1998.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Brenda Jo Shelton,

NRC Clearance Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 98-4762 Filed 2-24-98; 8:45 am]

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Proposed Generic Communication; Laboratory Testing of Nuclear-Grade Activated Charcoal (M97978)

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Notice of opportunity for public comment.

SUMMARY: The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is proposing to issue a generic letter concerning the laboratory testing of nuclear-grade activated charcoal that is used in the safety-related air-cleaning units of engineered safety feature ventilation systems of nuclear power plants to reduce the potential onsite and offsite consequences of a radiological accident by adsorbing iodine. The purpose of the proposed generic letter is to: (1) Alert addressees that the NRC has determined that testing nuclear-grade activated charcoal to standards other than American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) D3803-1989, "Standard Test Method for Nuclear-Grade Activated Carbon," does not provide assurance for complying with their current licensing basis as it relates to the dose limits of General Design Criterion (GDC) 19 of Appendix A to 10 CFR Part 50 and Subpart A of 10 CFR Part 100, and that ASTM D3803-1989 should be used for both new and used charcoal because it allows for accurately monitoring the degradation of the charcoal over time; (2) request that addressees determine whether their technical specifications (TS) reference ASTM D3803-1989 for charcoal filter laboratory testing and if not, either amend their TS to reference ASTM D3803-1989 or propose an alternative test protocol and provide the requested information; (3) alert addressees of NRC intent to exercise enforcement discretion under certain conditions; and (4) require that addressees submit written responses to this generic letter.